



## Minutes Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board March 7, 2013

Minutes of the Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board recorded at 4:05 p.m. on March 7, 2013, within the Tempe History Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Shirley McKean  
Mark Hubble  
Robert McKinley

**City Staff Present:**

Dr. Amy Douglass, Manager, Tempe History Museum

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Nikki Gusz  
Mary O'Grady  
James Schoenwetter  
Jennifer Wagner

**Guest(s) Present:**

Anne Chandler

Meeting convened at 4:05 p.m. Shirley McKean, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

**Agenda Item 1: Consideration of the February 7, 2012, Meeting Minutes**

- Since there was no quorum, the consideration of the meeting minutes was postponed until the April meeting.

**Agenda Item 2: Communications Report**

- There were no communications.

**Agenda Item 3: National Accreditation**

- Dr. Douglass gave an update on the four major documents that are required by the American Alliance for Museums (AAM) for accredited institutions.
  - **Collections Management Policy:** The Policy, Procedures and Accessions Committee met on Friday, February 20 and continued work on revising the policy.
  - **Code of Ethics:** Dr. Douglass stated that she had begun writing the collections management section of the code. Once it is completed, it will be reviewed by Mary O'Grady and the P, P & A Committee. Mary O'Grady will be writing the balance of the code.
  - **Strategic Plan:** The strategic planning process will begin in late April/May time frame.

- **Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Plan:** Dr. Douglass stated that she received a call from Kevin Cullens who is in charge of security and disaster preparedness at the Desert Botanical Garden. He stated that he had recently moved to Tempe and would like to offer his services to the museum. Mr. Cullens mentioned that he is working on a disaster preparedness plan for the Desert Botanical Garden and expressed an interest in assisting the Board and museum staff with developing a plan for the museum.
  - Dr. Douglass stated that she will ask Mr. Cullens if he would be willing to attend the April Board meeting and talk to the Board members about his background and developing a disaster preparedness plan.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Four Disciplines of Execution**

- Dr. Douglass summarized the recent changes to the exhibit hall:
  - ***Surviving in the Desert:*** Dr. Douglass stated that there are new prehistoric artifacts from the Archaeological Research Institute in the large glass case at the front of the exhibit hall and new text panels were installed.
  - ***Pedestal at Front Entry:*** Scrapers were removed and a freight wagon display has been installed. It is loaded with the types of freight that would have been transported up to the site of the Roosevelt Dam construction. The new labels on the rails of the pedestal tell the story of the importance of wagons before the railroad came to Arizona.

#### **Agenda Item 5A: Report - Public Programs Representative**

- Shirley McKean, Public Programs Committee representative and Chair, gave a summary of the Black History Month Celebration that took place on February 9. On February 24 the museum held a screening of a documentary film, "A Legacy in the Valley" about two African American Women pioneers in the Phoenix area.
- The Coronado del Sol High School string musicians' performance on February 28 was well attended. On March 1, the Tetra String Quartet played dance music from different eras and genres. The audience was relatively small but the performance was well received.
- Upcoming programs include a performance on March 14 entitled, "Keep on Moving: Songs of the 1930s" with the 198 String Band. They will perform unknown music from the 1930s with a backdrop of photographs from the Depression era. There will be audio excerpts from oral histories, poems and historical commentary. The program is in partnership with the ASU Public History Program.
- LOUD 2 will take place on March 16. It will be an outdoor celebration with bands, food trucks and sustainable arts and crafts.
- Shirley McKean announced that the previous Third Thursday was on February 21. The speaker was Nancy Hormann, the Executive Director of the Downtown Tempe Community and she talked about "The Future of Mill Avenue." Shirley McKean summarized some of the upcoming development projects that were discussed.
- On March 21, Grady Gammage will be talking about water resources and urban planning.

**Agenda Item 5B: Report - Policy, Procedures and Accessions**

- Jennifer Wagner, representative on the Policy, Procedures and Accessions Committee (P. P.A.), was absent so Anne Chandler, Tempe Historical Society Representative, gave the report.
- There is one new provisional deposit, a brooch with the Tempe logo that was donated by Tempe's first female City Council member.
- The one new acquisition is a copy of Waylon Jennings' first solo album entitled "JD's" which is named for the Tempe night club where he performed regularly at the time it was recorded.
- There is an outgoing loan of two scythes has gone to the Anthropology Museum at Arizona State University for an exhibit.

**Agenda Item 5C: Report - Tempe Historic Preservation Commission**

- Mary O'Grady was absent. There was no report.

**Agenda Item 5D: Report - Tempe Historical Society**

- Anne Chandler, representative to the Tempe Historical Society Board (Society Board), stated that the Society Board will be holding a retreat on Saturday, March 30 to prepare for a marketing campaign by identifying their target audience and how they want to market themselves.
- The next lunch talk will be on Wednesday, March 13. The speaker will be Malcolm Comeaux. He will talk about "How Arizona Got Its Shape and Borders." He will describe the history, politics and historical events that shaped the borders of the territory and ultimately the state of Arizona.

**Agenda Item 5E: Report - Oral History Program**

- Bob McKinley, Oral History Program representative, stated that volunteer Susan Jensen has completed 1,117 pages of transcriptions.
- Volunteer Jen Sweeny has begun cataloging new oral history interviews.
- The interviews with Dick Bryce have been completed.
- The museum is working on a partnership with Story Corps. Currently the City Attorney's office is reviewing the agreement.
- An upcoming oral history interview will be recorded with Dr. John Gilliland.
- Jared Smith is writing the booklet of African American history in Tempe and is using oral histories as to organize his narrative.

**Agenda Item 6 - Board Member Announcements**

- Robert McKinley announced that he and his wife are taking a trip to Ohio so he will miss the meeting in May.

**Agenda Item 6 - Future Agenda Items**

- No new agenda items were identified

The next meeting of the Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board is scheduled to take place at 4 p.m. on April 4, 2013 in the Tempe History Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ, 85282.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.**

Prepared by: Dr. Amy Douglass, Tempe History Museum Manager

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Shirley McKeen, Chair, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board